Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended):   A gaming device configured to operate to request and receive funds electronically, said gaming device comprising:

a game processor configured to operate to receive a wager from a player to initiate a wagering game;

an EFT controller configured to operate to process an electronic fund transfer request by the player, the EFT controller configured to operate without direct communication between the game processor and the EFT controller;

a card reader configured to operate with the EFT controller;

a payment device configured to operate with the game processor to provide a monetary amount to a player after:

(i)   a card of the player is ~~inserted into~~ read by the card reader, ~~and~~

(ii)   ~~after receiving~~ the EFT controller receives an approval for the electronic fund transfer request from a remote fund repository ~~that communicates with the EFT controller~~ via a banking network ~~and without said approval being communicated from the EFT controller to the game processor,~~

(iii)   the EFT controller sends data indicative of the approval to a gaming establishment network external to the gaming device, and

(iv)   the game processor receives the data indicative of the approval from the gaming establishment network; and

a housing that supports the EFT controller, the game processor, the card reader, and the payment device.

Claim 2 (currently amended):   The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the card is selected from the group consisting of: a credit card, a debit card, a gaming establishment card, and any combination thereof.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the amount is of a type selected from the group consisting of: a ticket, one or more gaming device credits, one or more gaming device tokens, one or more coins, a lottery ticket, and any combination thereof.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the payment device is one selected from the group consisting of: a ticket printer, a hopper, a credit meter, a gaming establishment card/account, a lottery ticket issuer, and any combination thereof.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 1, which includes a first display configured to operate with the EFT controller to display electronic fund transfer information to the user.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 5, which includes an additional second display configured to display the wagering game of the gaming device.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 1, which includes an input device operable with the EFT controller to enable the user to input electronic fund transfer information.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the banking network includes a wide area network.

Claim 9 (original): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the banking network includes an internet.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, ~~which includes~~ <u>wherein the gaming establishment network includes</u> a local casino network that interfaces the banking network with the game processor.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 10, wherein the local casino network supports at least one ~~other~~ function selected from the group consisting of: a promotions function, one or more casino-player fund transfers, a player tracking function, and any combination thereof.

Claim 12 (original): The gaming device of Claim 10, wherein the local casino network communicates with a ticket validation system that logs the monetary amount provided to the player.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 10, which includes an integrated circuit board configured to provide an interface between the game processor and the local casino network.

Claim 14 (currently amended):   A gaming device configured to operate to transfer funds electronically for use by a player, said gaming device comprising:

a housing;

a first processor supported by the housing and configured to operate to:

(a)   receive an electronic fund transfer request from the player, the request including at least an account number and a requested amount of money,

(b)   send the request to a remote fund repository that generates a response to the request, said response to the request indicative of whether the remote fund repository approved the request, ~~and~~

(c)   receive the response to the ~~request;~~ request, and

(d)   cause data indicative of the response to be sent to a gaming establishment network external to the gaming device;

a ticket printer supported by the housing; and

a second processor supported by the housing and configured to cause the ticket printer to print a ticket ~~with~~ indicative of the requested amount in response to receiving a signal from the gaming establishment network if the response to the request is indicative that the remote fund repository approved the request, the second processor thus configured to operate without direct communication between the first processor and the second processor ~~and without said response to the request being communicated from the first processor to the second processor~~.

Claim 15 (currently amended):   The gaming device of Claim 14, wherein the electronic fund transfer request includes at least one selected from the group consisting of: a personal identification number and an election for a transfer from a credit account or a debit account.

Claim 16 (cancelled).

Claim 17 (currently amended):   A system for transferring funds electronically to a gaming device for use by a player, said system comprising:

a gaming device having a EFT control unit and a game processor;

a first network configured to operate to access a remote fund repository, the remote fund repository configured to receive an electronic fund transfer request from the EFT control unit of the gaming device and to provide, to the EFT control unit, a response to the electronic fund transfer request; and

a second network external to the gaming device, the second network configured to communicate with the EFT control unit and the game processor of the gaming device to:

> (i)   receive first data indicative of the response from the EFT control unit, and

> (ii)   credit the player a monetary amount if the response from the remote fund repository includes an approval, send second data indicative of a monetary amount to credit the player to the game processor, the second network being different than the first network, such that the gaming device is configured to operate via the second network without direct communication between the EFT control unit and the game processor and without said response being communicated from the EFT control unit to the game processor.

Claim 18 (original): The system of Claim 17, wherein the first network includes an internet.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The system of Claim 17, which includes a plurality of remote fund repositories linked to one another and to the gaming device via the first network.

Claim 20 (original): The system of Claim 17, which includes a plurality of gaming devices linked by the second network.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The system of Claim 20, wherein at least two of the plurality of gaming devices enable a player to wager on at least two different types of games.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The system of Claim 17, wherein the second network includes a gaming establishment network implemented as a local area network.

Claim 23 (cancelled).

Claim 24 (previously presented): The system of Claim 17, which includes a ticket printer configured to print a ticket indicating the monetary amount.

Claim 25 (original): The system of Claim 24, wherein the ticket printer is located in the gaming device.

Claim 26 (currently amended):   A method of providing a monetary amount for use at a gaming device in a gaming establishment, said method comprising:

transmitting, from a first processor of the gaming device, a fund request amount to a remote fund repository;

receiving, at a second processor of the gaming device, a response <u>originating</u> from the remote fund repository<u>, said response sent:</u>

<u>(i)   from the remote fund repository to the first processor,</u>

<u>(ii)   from the first processor to an external network of the gaming establishment, and</u>

<u>(iii)   from the external network to the second processor</u> ~~without direct communication between the first processor and the second processor and without said response being communicated from the first processor to the second processor~~, the response indicating whether the remote fund repository approved the request;

providing the amount for use at the gaming device if the response indicates that the remote fund repository approved the request; and

informing the gaming establishment of the amount provided for use at the gaming device.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The method of Claim 26, wherein providing the amount for use at the gaming device includes at least one selected from the group consisting of: crediting a credit meter of the gaming device, issuing a number of tokens from a hopper, issuing a lottery ticket, and printing a receipt.

Claim 28 (currently amended):   The method of Claim 26, wherein transmitting the fund request ~~from the first processor~~ includes transmitting the fund request amount <u>from the first processor</u> over a wide area network.

Claim 29 (currently amended):   The method of Claim 26, ~~wherein receiving at the second processor of the gaming device, the response~~ <u>which</u> includes receiving the response <u>at the second processor</u> over a local area network.